Lecture Module - Time Varying Circuits

Mechanical Engineering

Tennessee Technological University

Topic 2 - First Order Systems

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- General System Model
- Mechanical-Electrical Analogies
- Example: RC Circuit
- Activity: Bulb Thermometer

General System Model

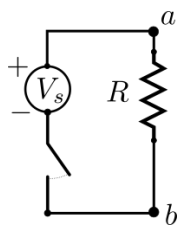
The behavior of a circuit is dependent on time, and many common circuits can be represented by a *linear ordinary differential equation* which can be written in the following standard form.

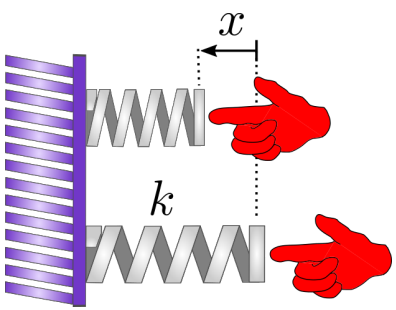
$$a_n \frac{d^n x}{dt^n} + a_{n-1} \frac{d^{n-1} x}{dt^{n-1}} + \ldots + a_2 \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dx}{dt} + a_0 x = f(t)$$

Mechanical-Electrical Analogies

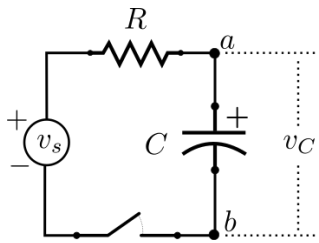
Many mechanical systems are also time dependent, or *dynamic* and a mechanical-electrical analog is often draw between the two.

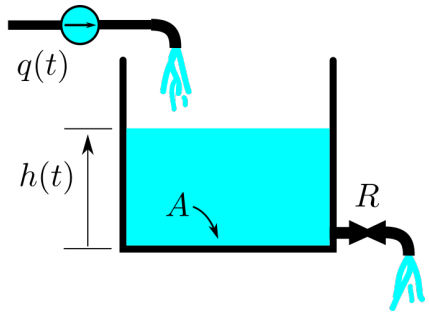
Zero Order



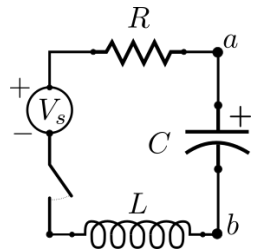


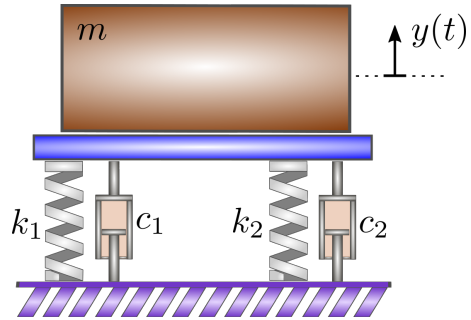
First Order





Second Order

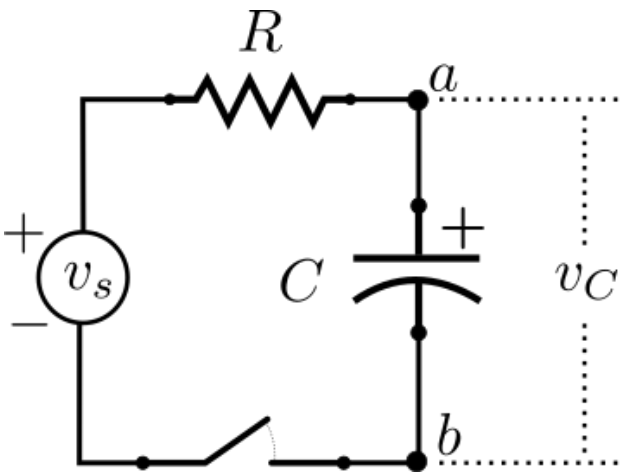




This concept *was* used for analysis and simulation.

Example: RC Circuit

The RC circuit is a first order system. The response to a step input v_s is exponential which is described a single parameter the time constant τ.



First Order Model

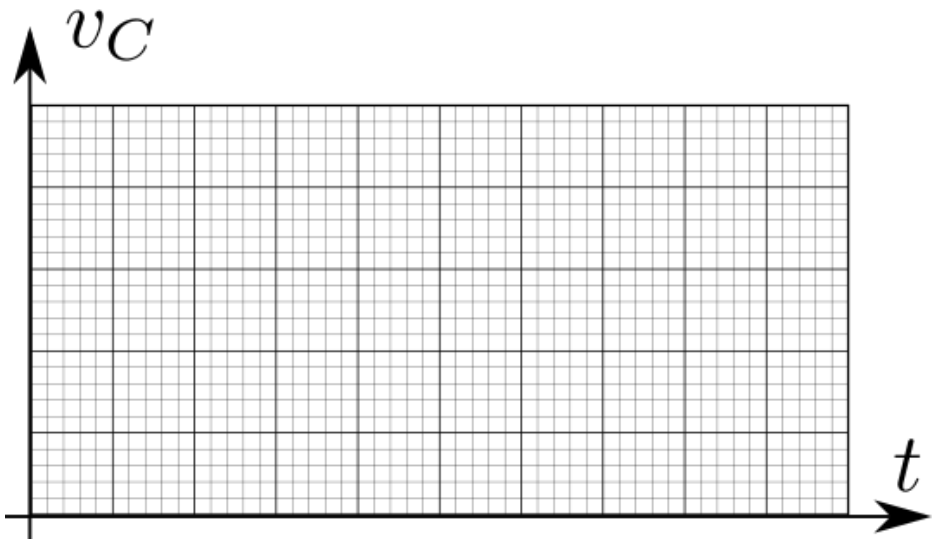
$$RC\dot{v}_C + v_C = v_S$$

Response Equation

$$v_C(t) = v_s\left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}\right)$$

Example: RC Circuit

time(*s*)	*response*(*V*)

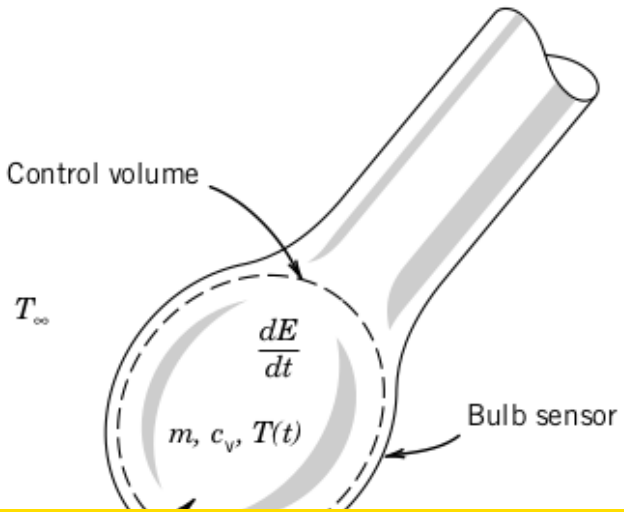


Activity: Bulb Thermometer

Activity: This should be completed by each student as an individual. You are encouraged to discuss with your peers.

Consider the bulb thermometer shown which can be modeled as a first order system. Write the system model and the expected reponse.

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \dot{Q} \qquad \frac{dE}{dt} = mc_v \frac{T(t)}{dt} \qquad \dot{Q} = hA_s \Delta T$$



First Order Model:

$$mc_v \frac{T(t)}{dt} + hA_s T(t) = hA_s T_\infty$$

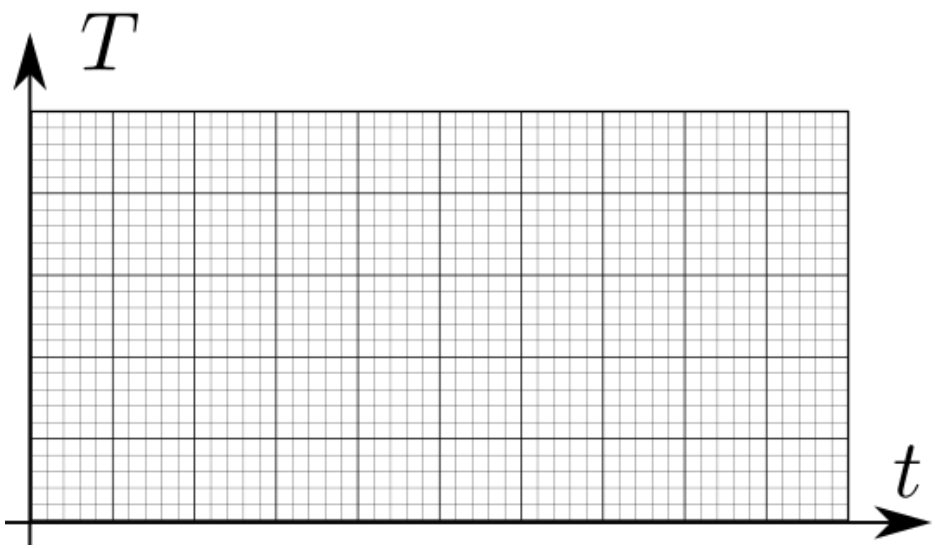
Response Equation:

$$T(t) = T_\infty + [T(0) - T_\infty] e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

Activity: Bulb Thermometer

Activity: Fill out the table below and sketch a graph to represent the data.

time(s)	*response*$(^\circ C)$
0	
1τ	
2τ	
3τ	
4τ	



Activity: Bulb Thermometer

Activity: Answer the following questions.

(hint: Think about the *general system model*.)

What is the time constant of the bulb thermometer system?

$\tau =$

What is the static sensitivity? What are the units?

$K =$